IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 1670

International Court of Justice

Goering
Def. to Ex. No. 3

Goering
Dok. B1 / Extr. # 22

Filed March 22, 1946
[illegible]

Replies to Interrogatory submitted by the Counsel for the Defence of Hermann Goering in the present trial before the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg by the Right Honourable the Earl of Halifax, His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Washington, D.C.

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Question 1. Did you visit the defendant Goering in Karinhall with Ambassador Henderson in November 1937 and were you his guest there?

Answer. Yes.

Question 2. Did a discussion about the political situation take place at this occasion?

Answer. Yes.

Question 3. Did Goering tell you during this discussion: Every German Government would consider the following matters as the most constituent part of its policy:

(a) The incorporation of Austria and the Sudetenland into Germany.

(b) The return of Danzig to Germany with a reasonable solution of the "corridor" question.

Answer. Yes.

Question 4. Did you answer thereupon:

But I hope without war?

Answer. I said that His Majesty's Government wanted all questions affecting Germany and her neighbours settled by peaceful methods. I did not otherwise discuss these questions.

Question 5. Did Goering answer thereupon:

That depends very much upon England. England would be able to contribute very much to the peaceful solution of this question. Goering

doesn't/

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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NURNBERG, GERMANY
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doesn't want war either, for these reasons, but these questions have to be settled under all circumstances.

Answer. Yes.

Question 6. Did the Swedish civil engineer Birger Dahlerus from Stockholm visit you repeatedly in August 1939 in personal agreement with the defendant Goering?

Answer. Yes.

Question 7. Was it known to you that Goering in doing so wanted to establish a direct contact with you, resp. the Prime Minister, evading the German Foreign Office.

Answer. I have no such knowledge beyond the fact that Dahlerus said so.

Question 8. Was it known to you, that this direct contact with you should be established to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Polish-German crisis?

Answer. I have no such knowledge beyond the fact that Dahlerus said so.

Question 9. Was it known to you, that Goering wanted to use his influence on Hitler for such a peaceful settlement?

Answer I have no such knowledge beyond the fact that Dahlerus said so.

Question 10. Has Dahlerus been frequently with you or your collaborators at this time (August 1939)?

Answer. Yes.

Question 11./

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Question 11. What was the content of your discussions resp. of the discussions of your collaborators with Dahlerus?

Answer. These discussions were concerned with the serious threat to European peace owing to the German demands on Poland.

Question 12. What propositions did you have transmitted to Goering through Dahlerus?

Answer. The views of His Majesty's Government with regard to the situation arising out of the German demands on Poland were explained to M. Dahlerus in terms similar to those communicated to Hitler by His Majesty's Government and subsequently published by His Majesty's Government.

Question 13. Have notes been made about the discussions with Dahlerus and the propositions, transmitted to Goering?

Answer. Short records are normally made of all interviews with the Secretary of State or with members of the Foreign Office staff. No other or special records were made of interviews given to M. Dahlerus.

Question 14. Where are these notes?

Answer. All records as stated in the first sentence of the answer to Question 13 are preserved in the Archives of the Foreign Office.

Question 15./

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Question 15. Did you have the impression that Goering's endeavours to avoid war were sincere?

Answer. I have no doubt that Goering would have preferred to enforce the German demands on Poland without war if he could.

Question 16. Did your Ambassador Henderson tell you, that Goering invited him to his house - after the official discussion between Henderson and Ribbentrop in August 1939, in the course of which Ribbentrop read but did not present the German terms to Poland to Ambassador Henderson - and made known privately to him, Ambassador Henderson, among other things the content of the read memorandum, because Goering did not know whether Henderson had understood the terms, read to him by Ribbentrop?

Answer. Yes.

Question 17. Did Henderson tell you or did you learn about it in some other way that Goering, at this occasion, referred to the fact that he is not authorized to give such an information and is doing it on his own responsibility in order to try to contribute even now to the easing of the situation?

Answer. Sir Nevile Henderson did not tell me this. I have no knowledge of it.

Question 18. Didn't Ambassador Henderson inform you in general, that Goering is endeavouring to avoid the outbreak of a war?

Answer. No.

Question 19./

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Question 19. Were you informed about the fact that Goering always used his utmost influence at all occasions for a German-English agreement?

Answer. No.

Question 20. Would you not prefer to appear before the International Military Tribunal and to be interrogated as witness there, instead of replying in writing to the preceding questions?

Answer. No.

Signed Halifax

I, Hubert Norman Pullar, His Majesty's Consul at Washington, certify that the above signature, Halifax, is the signature of the Earl of Halifax, His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington, D.C.

This .first.. day of ..February.. 1946

at His Majesty's Consulate, Washington, D.C.

H. N. Pullar

H.B.M. CONSUL

BRITISH CONSULATE 1 – FEB 1946 WASHINGTON

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL WASHINGTON

CERTIFIED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE FOR LEGALIZATION OF THE FOREGOING SIGNATURE "H. N. Pullar"

FOREIGN OFFICE LONDON

14 FEB 1946

David Scott

FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Goering
~~Defs~~ Exhibits No. 3 (Goering 22)

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